

AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 21 APR 2006

Re Box No. V

**Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statements**

1. Reference is made to the following documents:

- D1: VIRDEE B S: "Effective technique for electronically tuning a dielectric resonator" February 13, 1997 (1997-02-13), ELECTRONICS LETTERS, IEE STEVENAGE, GB, PAGE(S) 301-302, XP006007083 ISSN: 0013-5194
- D2: PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN Vol. 1999, No. 04, April 30, 1999 (1999-04-30) & JP 11 027034 A (MURATA MFG CO LTD), January 29, 1999 (1999-01-29)

2. Document D1 is regarded as the closest prior art compared with the subject matter of claim 1. It discloses (the references in brackets relate to this document):
a filter element suited to filtering electromagnetic waves, in particular a bandpass filter or a band-stop filter, implemented also as a reflection filter or suchlike containing
- a dielectric, cylindrical resonator (Figure 1), as well as
 - one or more lines which supply or, as the case may be draw off electromagnetic waves to/from the dielectric resonator (right column, lines 4-6, Figure 1);
 - with said lines terminating in a contacting structure (right column, lines 9-11, Figure 1);
- with the lines together with their contacting structure being part of a printed-circuit board structure (Figure 1) such that;
- the resonator is supported by the printed circuit board (Figure 1), and
 - the resonator is arranged spaced from the contacting structure (Figure 1);

The subject matter of claim 1 thus differs from the known filter element in that;
a recess is provided in the printed circuit board, in which recess the resonator is arranged by means of a suitable securing means.

The subject matter of claim 1 is thus not novel (Article 33(2) PCT).

3. The object to be achieved with the present invention can thus be deemed as to how to improve the coupling between the line/s and the dielectric resonator and as to how to secure the resonator to the printed-circuit board.

The solution proposed for this object in claim 1 of the present invention is thus based on an inventive step for the following reasons (Article 33(3) PCT):

D2 describes the provision of a recess in the printed circuit board, in which recess the resonator is arranged by means of a suitable securing means, the combination of D1 and D2 is not regarded as obvious.

4. The claims 2-14 are dependent on claim 1 and thus similarly fulfill the requirements of the PCT with regard to novelty and inventive step.

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5. The application does not fulfill the requirements of the Article 6 PCT, because the claim 2 is not clear.
 - 5.1 The term "where applicable" in claim 2 must be deleted. The applicant must also explain whether claim 2 should be dependent on or independent of claim 1.
 - 5.2 Claim 1 is however composed of two parts; the features in D1 are known but are incorrectly listed in the characterizing part, since they were disclosed in document D1 in conjunction with the features mentioned in the preamble (Rule 6.3b) PCT).
 - 5.3 The wording "in particular" and "or suchlike" can not be allowed for the creation of doubtless rights in claim 1. This wording does not allow it to be determined as to whether these following parts of the claim are an explanation, a feature to be protected, a preferred application area, an inserted subclaim or the like.